LXXVIII. *Part of a Letter from Mr.* John Parker, *an* Engliſh *Painter at* Rome, *to his Father at* London, *concerning the late Eruption of* Mount Veſuvius: *Communicated by Mr.* Henry Baker, *F. R. S.*

Honoured Sir, Rome, Dec. 20, 1751.

Read May 28, 1752. I HAD the ſatisfaction, whilſt at Naples, to ſee the eruption of Mount Veſuvius, which was very extraordinary; but the want of room here hinders me the giving you any very particular account. It laſted about 25 days in all, and broke out of the ſide of the mountain; preceded by an earthquake, felt all over Naples at the time of the eruption. The mountain in the middle of the crater or cup, which formerly threw out the ſtones, ſunk down, with about a third of the bottom of the ſaid cup. The breadth of the matter it threw out is in ſome places half a mile over, in almoſt the leaſt part 60 feet; and has filled a valley, into which it ran, that might be about 60 feet deep, and raiſed a mountain in the ſame place, of matter and aſhes, about 50 feet high; and its whole length, from the mouth to where it ſtopp'd, is about 5 miles; but it did not arrive at the ſea by near five miles. The matter, which is here called lava, ſeems to be compoſed of iron, antimony, ſulphur, and ſalts, and is not always of the ſame colour, taſte, *&c.* in every place. The thing I can compare it to moſt, is the large cinders thrown out of your great iron works, but cover'd over in many places with the above ſalts and ſulphur. Whilſt the lava run red-hot, I ſaw a man throw a maſs

maſs of the cool lava from an height upon it, which, far from ſinking into it, rebounded like a ball. Its motion was as ſlow as the common walk of a man. It broke out in five different places. I walk'd on it for about a mile, whilſt near three feet of the top were cool'd; but for many feet underneath as red to the ſight as the furnace of a glaſs-houſe. It cover'd and burnt up trees, houſes, &c. in ſhort all it found in its way. From,

SIR,

Your dutiful ſon,

John Parker.

LXXIX. *The Caſe of a Piece of Bone, together with a Stone in the Bladder, ſucceſsfully extracted by Mr.* Joſeph Warner, *F. R. S. and Surgeon to* Guy's Hoſpital.

Read May 28, 1752.

THE ſtone in the bladder is a diſeaſe ſo common to both ſexes, and the ſymptoms, and circumſtances attending it are in general ſo well known, and ſo much alike, as to render few caſes of this kind worthy of communication. But as the following is attended with a ſingular, and perhaps unparallel'd circumſtance, I make bold humbly to offer to your conſideration a ſhort account of the following fact: